



**Directorate for Coordination of Police
Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Sector for Operative International
Cooperation - NCB INTERPOL**

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INTRODUCTION

The widespread presence of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and associated ammunition in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a major risk factor inherited from the 1992-1995 war and represents a major challenge for the country.

Independent studies and analyses have revealed high levels of both civilian and military possession of SALW, which constitute a significant threat to human security, a stumbling-block in the fight against crime and corruption, and an obstacle to better social policy and to social and economic development. Given similar situations in other countries of South Eastern Europe, the complexity of the SALW problem has prompted the countries of the region to take an integrated approach.



It is estimated that 16 % of BIH citizens is in illegal possession of SALW.

The massive quantities of illegal SALW in BIH represent a long term problem for the country and its people, as well a strategic problem for the BIH authorities.

Defence reform and downsizing the BIH Armed force have resulted in huge quantities of surplus weapons and ammunition. It is difficult to secure these weapons appropriately due to the inadequate physical and technical protection systems, creating the possibility of the theft, illegal use, and smuggling and so endangering the local civil population, the region, Western Europe and others.



1. RELEVANT NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES

State level:

- Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina**
 - Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina**
 - State Investigation and Protection Agency of B&H**
 - Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sector for International Operative Cooperation – INTERPOL, EUROPOL)**
 - Service for Affairs with Foreigners**
 - Indirect Taxation Authority**

Entity level:

- Federal Ministry of Interior**
- Ministry of Interior of Republic Srpska**
- Police District of Brcko**



3. INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED BY BIH

- In accordance with :

- UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

- The Protocol against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (New York, 31.05.2001). Its purpose is to strengthen and unify international cooperation and to develop cohesive mechanisms to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition.



- **UN Programme of Action**
- **Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and development**
- **OSCE document on Small Arms and Light Weapons- Document was adopted at the 308th Plenary Meeting of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation on 24.11.2000.**
- **The UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects (UN Document)- adopted from 9-20 July 2001.**
- **EU Common Position on Arms Exports**



- EU Strategy to Combat the Illicit Accumulation of and Trafficking in SALW and their Ammunition.

In order to improve national arms control capacity in compliance with the relevant international obligations, Strategy for Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2013-2016 has been done by the Coordination Board with the support of NGO's and international agencies (UNDP, OSCE and others).



The Strategy includes specific projects to facilitates activities defined by the Strategic goals.

- Improvement of the legal framework and implementation of SALW legislation**
- Harmonization of the laws on weapons with International standards**
- Strengthening capacities for combating the illicit trade in SALW**
- Upgrade of IT system for the control of SALW**
- Improvement of control over the international and external trade in SALW**
- Reduction in illegal SALW**



- **Monitoring statistical data in the area of SALW**
- **Raising awareness on the risks associated with SALW**
- **Collection and disposal of illegal SALW**
- **Improvement of capacities to keep. Store and dispose of SALW**

Management of SALW in the possession of competent BIH agencies and institutions

- Resolving SALW surpluses**
- Control and supervision of process for disposal of surplus SALW**
- Improvement of capacities to keep and store SALW**
- Upgrade of IT System of SALW control**

International and regional cooperation and cooperation with NGO s

- Multilateral and bilateral cooperation in the field of control over SALW**
- Cooperation with civil society organisations.**

- **Implementation of new methodology of work through iArms (General Secretary Interpol Lyon) at the national plan- an information technology system which facilitates information exchange and cooperation between law enforcement agencies on firearm related crime.**
- **Developing system in tracing procedure in order to improve the tracing and detection of illicit SALW, and measures to facilitate transfer of such technologies**

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to have a better control of SALW

- At the international, its important to improve international tracing cooperation**
- At the national plan, its important to improve national tracing cooperation with the implementation of data base, of exchange of informations, coordination between the agencies.**

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION

Questions?